

Sunday Worship



STANDARD

Apostasy is Dangerous!

BY PASTOR DON GARDNER

By definition, Apostasy is the abandonment or renunciation of our religious beliefs. For Christians, and specifically for **Baptist Christians**, we believe in what is called "once saved, always saved" IF the initial decision to follow Christ was a true act of repentance! With that said, Apostasy is something reserved for those who have treated their "so-called faith" as mere academic dependency in Christ as a "religious act." True Christian faith is the complete release of one's trust and beliefs toward Christ as He becomes the Lord of one's life. This type of faith is not dependent on religion, convenience, comfort, rewards, sacraments, denominations, or certifications. True faith in Christ is valued so highly that it will not be lost or left behind and the idea of apostasy is never a consideration for this disciple!

In my 60 years of being a follower of Christ, I have had good days and bad. I have had struggles and losses. I have had confusions and joys. Births and deaths of relatives and friends have made for times of grieving. There have been times of understanding the actions of God and times of complete frustration over how things seemed to be headed in life. I have known friends who allowed their circumstances to become their excuse for blaming God in multiple ways. As human beings, we do often find ourselves overly dependent on our feelings for guiding our decisions and emotions. Yet, our eternal lives through faith are not to be treated so lightly!

Apostasy is an insult toward God. It disrespects the actions of Christ on the cross of Calvary and His actions in His Resurrection. Apostasy is a loss to those who thought they understood Christianity and never knew the difference between dependency in the living Christ or the academic/religion of Christianity. It is a sin that some denominations or cult groups have great religious teaching without introducing people to Christ as their savior. All of us face struggles and confusions within life. While it may seem natural to look at the lives of other believers and then allow their behaviors to define how we see the Christian life, we **MUST** discipline ourselves to remember that only in Jesus do we find the model of faith that is **ALWAYS** pure and holy. He alone is our standard!

FCBC Order of Worship
Sunday, January 30th, 2022

Join us for worship services on campus or online

English at 9:30AM

Chinese at 11:00AM

Livestream available: fcbcphx.org/sermons

Welcome & Music | Faith Ong

Message | Pastor Donald Gardner

Music | Response Song

Prayer | Closing

"Being Clever or Being Wise....you choose?"

I Kings 10: 23-25; I Kings 11: 1-13; I Kings 11: 41-43

Pastor Donald Gardner

I. When Our Ears Are Plugged, We Miss Important Lessons! Our ego thinks we are too smart to be controlled. (v.1-3).

II. Remaining Diligent & Observant is Our Daily need! (4-8)

III. God Announces His Judgement (9-13).

IV. It is Finished! (Solomon's Death) (41-43)

Announcements

Churchwide Prayer Meeting | January 29th | 9:00am-10:30am

Begin the new year by being filled up through prayer! Our theme will be "prayers for the new year."

FCBC Prayer Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81253616688>

Meeting ID: 812 5361 6688

Passcode: 85018

Please contact Heather (Heather.Chiang.Ong@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the Prayer Committee or would like to share during a meeting.

Church Council Meeting | Feb 12th | 9:00am

2022 FCBC Yard Sale | February 26th | 8:00am-12:00pm

Our FCBC Yard Sale is on Saturday, February 26th, from 8am-12pm. Donate your gently used items to Room B-1 (Choir Room) on Sundays, February 13th & 20th. All proceeds will be used for missions. *Please contact Pastor Dillon with any questions.* (Dillon.Le@fbcphx.org)